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Message Text

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21
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-05 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 /085 W
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P 301000Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8442
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 15873

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UN, CB
SUBJECT: MARSHAL LON NOL'S NOVEMBER 30 SPEECH ON OCCASION OF
ADOPTION OF UNGA RESOLUTION ON KHMER QUESTION

REF: PHNOM PENH 15871

FOLLOWING IS ENGLISH TEXT OF SUBJECT SPEECH DELIVERED IN PHNOM PENH AT 1600 HOURS LOCAL NOVEMBER 30 TO MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT, ASSEMBLY AND SENATE, ARMED FORCES LEADERSHIP, AND DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

BEGIN TEXT
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK HAS JUST ADOPTED A RESOLUTION WHICH PRESERVES THE LEGITIMATE RIGHT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC TO OCCUPY THE CAMBODIAN SEAT IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

TO THE FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS WHICH WORKED FOR THE ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION AND WHICH VOTED FOR IT, I OFFER MY THANKS FOR THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION WHICH THEY HAVE THEREBY MADE TO THE REESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE IN CAMBODIA AND IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. TO THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH DID NOT SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION, I WOULD SIMPLY SAY THAT THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AND NOT ONLY TO THE KHMER NATION. INDEED, THIS RESOLUTION HAS ESTABLISHED A PRECEDENT WHICH COULD HELP PROTECT OTHER MEMBERS OF THE UNITED
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NATIONS IN THE FUTURE AGAINST HAVING THEIR RIGHTS CHALLENGED BY

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GOVERNMENTS IN EXILE.

BUT THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO DWELL ON OUR DISAGREEMENTS WITH OUR ADVERSARIES AND THEIR SUPPORTERS, FOR THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS DOES MUCH MORE THAN DECIDE WHO SHOULD OCCUPY THE CAMBODIAN SEAT IN THE UNITED NATIONS. THE RESOLUTION WHICH WAS ADOPTED IS ABOVE ALL A CALL FOR PEACE. THIS APPEAL IS ADDRESSED AS MUCH TO US AS TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THE RESOLUTION FIRST OF ALL CALLS ON THE PARTIES TO THE CAMBODIAN CONFLICT TO ENTER INTO TALKS WITH A VIEW TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICT. IT STATES THAT SUCH A SETTLEMENT SHOULD BE REACHED BY THE KHMERS THEMSELVES, WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. IT ASKS THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO ASSIST THE PARTIES.

I WISH SOLEMNLY TO DECLARE ON THIS OCCASION THAT THE KHMERS OF THIS SIDE ARE READY TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS NOW AND WITHOUT PRIOR CONDITIONS. THAT HAS BEEN OUR INTENTION FOR SOME TIME. LAST JULY 9 I MADE A PUBLIC OFFER ALONG THESE LINES TO THE OTHER SIDE, AN OFFER WHICH I REITERATED ON AUGUST 15 ON THE OCCASION OF OUR ARMED FORCES DAY AND AGAIN ON OCTOBER 9 ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE REPUBLIC. SOME PEOPLE TOOK A SOMEWHAT CYNICAL ATTITUDE TOWARD OUR OFFER OF NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT PRIOR CONDITIONS, IN ASSERTING THAT IT WAS SIMPLY A TACTIC FOR PRESERVING THE SEAT OF THE REPUBLIC IN THE UNITED NATIONS. THEY WERE WRONG. THAT OFFER WAS MADE WITH COMPLETE SINCERITY AND WE ONLY REGRET THAT IT WAS NOT INITIALLY TAKEN SERIOUSLY BY THE OTHER SIDE.

NOW THAT WE HAVE RETAINED THE SEAT IN THE UNITED NATIONS THERE IS NO LONGER ANY REASON FOR ANYONE TO DOUBT OUR SINCERITY. BUT IF BY CHANCE ANYONE STILL HAS DOUBTS, I WOULD LIKE TO AFFIRM AGAIN, SOLEMNLY AND CATEGORICALLY, THAT WE ARE READY TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE KHMERS OF THE OTHER SIDE, WITHOUT PRIOR CONDITIONS, AT A TIME AND PLACE AGREEABLE TO THE PARTIES, WITH A VIEW TO FINDING A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO THIS CONFLICT WHICH HAS COST THE KHMER

PEOPLE SO MUCH IN BLOOD AND TREASURE.

WE HAVE STATED REPEATEDLY THAT ALL QUESTIONS WHICH DIVIDE THE KHMERS OF THE TWO SIDES ARE SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WE WELCOME. WE HAVE SAID THAT WE WILL AGREE TO NEGOTIATE WITH ANYONE HAVING A MANDATE TO SPEAK FOR THE OTHER SIDE.

IF IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THIS SOLEMN APPEAL WAS LAUNCHED IN ORDER

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TO PRESERVE THE SEAT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC IN THE UNITED NATIONS, LET OUR SINCERITY NOW BE TESTED, NOW THAT THE QUESTION OF THE SEAT HAS BEEN DECIDED, BY ALL COUNTRIES WHICH WELCOME AN END TO THIS CONFLICT. LET THEM ENCOURAGE THE OTHER SIDE TO RESPOND TO OUR APPEAL BY AGREEING TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT PRIOR CONDITIONS.

THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ASKS THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THAT ORGANIZATION TO ASSIST THE

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PARTIES. FOR OUR PART, WE WOULD WELCOME A VISIT TO PHNOM PENH BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL, MR. WALDHEIM, OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE, TO CARRY OUT THE MANDATE GIVEN HIM BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION.

I WISH TO TAKE THIS OCCASION TO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT MY COLLEAGUES IN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC AND I WILL ABIDE BY THE RESULTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WE HAVE DECIDED TO UNDERTAKE IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND CONCORD. THE OTHER SIDE HAS IN PART JUSTIFIED ITS OPPOSITION TO NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASIS THAT IT WISHES TO AVOID THE TERRITORIAL PARTITION OF THE KHMER NATION. I WISH IT TO BE KNOWN THAT WE ON OUR SIDE HAVE NO WISH TO SEE THE COUNTRY PARTITIONED. SINCE BOTH PARTIES OPPOSE SUCH A SOLUTION, THERE SHOULD BE NO FEAR THAT A PARTITION WOULD RESULT FROM NEGOTIATIONS.

OUR GOAL HAS BEEN AND REMAINS THE ENDING OF THE SUFFERING OF THE KHMER PEOPLE BY TERMINATING THIS WAS WHICH HAS ALREADY GONE ON TOO LONG. AS I STATED ON OCTOBER 9, WE HAVE FOUGHT FOR FOUR AND ONE-HALF YEARS NOT FOR THE WELFARE OF ONE MAN OR OF A GROUP OF MEN, BUT ON BEHALF OF CERTAIN IDEALS AND VALUES WHICH ALL MEN HOLD DEAR: FREEDOM, JUSTICE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS. WE HAVE FOUGHT AGAINST THOSE WHO WISHED TO IMPOSE ON US BY FORCE OF ARMS A SYSTEM ALIEN TO OUR TRADITIONS AND OUR BELIEFS. WE ARE READY TO END THE MILITARY STRUGGLE JUST AS SOON AS OUR ADVERSARIES EXPRESS THE WISH TO OPEN DISCUSSIONS AROUND THE CONFERENCE TABLE.

IF OUR ADVERSARIES STILL DOUBT OUR SINCERITY, THEY HAVE A VERY SIMPLE MEANS OF TESTING IT: THEY CAN ANNOUNCE THAT THEY TOO WISH TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PRESENT CONFLICT BY MEANS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT PRIOR CONDITIONS. THE WAY WILL THEN BE OPEN FOR A BEGINNING OF THE TALKS WHICH HAVE BEEN URGED UPON THE PARTIES BY THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.
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